

**34**, the memory **34** may include random access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), flash memory, or one or more different types of portable electronic memory, such as discs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, etc., or any suitable combination of these types of memory. The controller **30** may include one or more processors **36**, which may be running any suitable programs. The controller **30** may be a portion of a Flight Management System (FMS) or may be operably coupled to the FMS.

**[0021]** A computer searchable database of information may be stored in the memory **34** and accessible by the processor **36**. The processor **36** may run a set of executable instructions to display the database or access the database. Alternatively, the controller **30** may be operably coupled to a database of information. For example, such a database may be stored on an alternative computer or controller. It will be understood that the database may be any suitable database, including a single database having multiple sets of data, multiple discrete databases linked together, or even a simple table of data. It is contemplated that the database may incorporate a number of databases or that the database may actually be a number of separate databases. The database may store data that may include historical data related to the expected behaviors of the various components of the aircraft **10** and related to a fleet of aircraft. The database may also include reference values related to the components.

**[0022]** Alternatively, it is contemplated that the database may be separate from the controller **30** but may be in communication with the controller **30** such that it may be accessed by the controller **30**. For example, it is contemplated that the database may be contained on a portable memory device and in such a case, the aircraft **10** may include a port for receiving the portable memory device and such a port would be in electronic communication with controller **30** such that controller **30** may be able to read the contents of the portable memory device. It is also contemplated that the database may be updated through the wireless communication link **32** and that in this manner, real time information such as information regarding historical fleet-wide data may be included in the database and may be accessed by the controller **30**. Further, it is contemplated that such a database may be located off the aircraft **10** at a location such as airline operation center, flight operations department control, or another location. The controller **30** may be operably coupled to a wireless network over which the database information may be provided to the controller **30**.

**[0023]** A flight display **38** may be operably coupled with the controller **30** and the controller **30** may drive the flight display **38** to generate a display thereon. In this manner, the flight display **38** may visually express information pertaining to the aircraft **10**. The flight display **38** may be a primary flight display, a multipurpose control display unit, or other suitable flight display commonly included within the cockpit **16**.

**[0024]** While a commercial aircraft has been illustrated, it is contemplated that portions of the embodiments of the invention may be implemented anywhere including in a computer **40** at a ground system **42**. Furthermore, database(s) as described above may also be located in a destination server or a computer **40**, which may be located at and include the designated ground system **42**. Alternatively, the database may be located at an alternative ground location. The ground system **42** may communicate with other devices including the controller **30** and databases located remote from the computer **40** via a wireless communication link **44**. The ground system

**42** may be any type of communicating ground system **42** such as an airline control or flight operations department. A display **46** may be operably coupled with the computer **40** and the computer **40** may drive the display **46** to generate a display thereon.

**[0025]** One of the controller **30** and the computer **40** may include all or a portion of a computer program having an executable instruction set for displaying a parameter that can be modeled by an algorithm having multiple variables. Regardless of whether the controller **30** or the computer **40** runs the program for displaying the parameter, the program may include a computer program product that may include machine-readable media for carrying or having machine-executable instructions or data structures stored thereon. Such machine-readable media may be any available media, which can be accessed by a general purpose or special purpose computer or other machine with a processor. Generally, such a computer program may include routines, programs, objects, components, data structures, algorithms, etc. that have the technical effect of performing particular tasks or implement particular abstract data types. Machine-executable instructions, associated data structures, and programs represent examples of program code for executing the exchange of information as disclosed herein. Machine-executable instructions may include, for example, instructions and data, which cause a general purpose computer, special purpose computer, or special purpose processing machine to perform a certain function or group of functions.

**[0026]** It will be understood that the aircraft **10** and computer **40** merely represent two exemplary embodiments that may be configured to implement embodiments or portions of embodiments of the invention. During operation, either the controller **30** and/or the computer **40** may display a parameter that can be modeled by an algorithm having multiple variables. By way of non-limiting example, the controller **30** and/or the computer **40** may utilize inputs from the components of the aircraft **10** including its sensors **22**, the database (s) and/or information from airline control or flight operations department to display a parameter that can be modeled by an algorithm having multiple variables. The wireless communication link **32** and the wireless communication link **44** may both be utilized to transmit data such that either the flight display **38** or the display **46** may be utilized by either the controller **30** and/or the computer **40** to display on a first portion of a plot of the parameter for a first period and simultaneously display on a second portion of the display, different from the first portion, a plot related to the parameter, for some of the variables for at least a portion of the first period.

**[0027]** In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, FIG. 3 illustrates a method **100**, which may be used for displaying a parameter that can be modeled by an algorithm having multiple variables on a display to provide an understanding of an impact of the variables on the parameter. The method **100** begins at **102** by displaying on a first portion of the display a plot of the parameter. The plot of the parameter may be displayed for a first time period. Simultaneously with the display of the plot of the parameter at **102** the method **100** at **104**, displays on a second portion of the display, different from the first portion, a plot related to the parameter, for some of the variables for at least a portion of the first time period.

**[0028]** FIG. 4 illustrates a schematic example of a layout of the display of such information according to the method **100**. The display **200** includes a first portion **202**, which may be used to display the plot of the parameter for the first time